

I CLAIM:

1. A molding process for manufacturing a tubular molded article, comprising the steps of:

(a) preparing a first mold having a cavity-
5 defining wall that defines a mold cavity and that is formed with at least a protrusion protruding therefrom into said mold cavity;

(b) placing a supporting member in said mold cavity in such a manner that said supporting member
10 is spaced apart from said cavity-defining wall of said first mold;

(c) introducing a first molding material into said mold cavity around said supporting member so as to form a first molded part around said supporting
15 member and a decorating indentation in said first molded part, said decorating indentation having dimensions corresponding to those of said protrusion; and

(d) filling said decorating indentation in said
20 first molded part with a second molding material so as to form a second molded part therein.

2. The molding process of Claim 1, wherein said second molded part is formed by placing said first molded part together with said supporting member in a second
25 mold, introducing said second molding material into said second mold so as to form a molded layer that surrounds said first molded part and that has a

portion filling said decorating indentation to define said second molded part, and removing said molded layer from said first molded part except for said second molded part, said first and second molded parts
5 having outer surfaces, respectively, which lie in the same cylindrical plane.

3. The molding process of Claim 1, wherein said second molded part is formed by placing said first molded part together with said supporting member in a second
10 mold, and introducing said second molding material into said second mold so as to form a molded layer that surrounds said first molded part and that has a portion filling said decorating indentation to define said second molded part.

15 4. The molding process of Claim 1, wherein said first mold is prepared by casting techniques using a pattern member that is cylindrical in shape, that has an outer surface, and that is formed with at least a pattern indentation extending inwardly from said outer
20 surface and having dimensions corresponding to those of said decorating indentation in said first molded part so as to form said protrusion on said cavity-defining wall of said first mold.

5. The molding process of Claim 1, further comprising
25 removing said supporting member from said first and second molded parts after step (d).

6. The molding process of Claim 1, wherein said

supporting member is made from a metal.

7. The molding process of Claim 1, wherein said first molding material is made from a metal.

8. The molding process of Claim 1, wherein said first
5 molding material is a resin.

9. The molding process of Claim 8, wherein said first molded part is transparent.

10. The molding process of Claim 1, wherein said second molding material is a resin.

10 11. The molding process of Claim 10, wherein said second molded part is transparent and has a color different from that of said first molded part.

12. The molding process of Claim 1, wherein said decorating indentation extends radially through said
15 first molded part so as to expose said supporting member therefrom.

13. The molding process of Claim 1, wherein said decorating indentation has a radial depth less than a radial thickness of said first molded part.

20 14. The molding process of Claim 1, wherein said supporting member is a tube.

15. A tubular molded article for a pen comprising:
a tubular first molded part that is formed with at least a decorating indentation; and

25 a second molded part that fills said decorating indentation and that is integrally molded with said first molded part.

16. The tubular molded article of Claim 15, further comprising a supporting member extending co-axially through said first molded part.

17. The tubular molded article of Claim 16, wherein
5 said supporting member is made from a metal.

18. The tubular molded article of Claim 15, wherein said first molding material is made from a metal.

19. The tubular molded article of Claim 15, wherein said first molding material is a resin.

10 20. The tubular molded article of Claim 19, wherein said first molded part is transparent.

21. The tubular molded article of Claim 15, wherein said second molding material is a resin.

22. The tubular molded article of Claim 21, wherein
15 said second molded part is transparent and has a color different from that of said first molded part.

23. The tubular molded article of Claim 16, wherein said decorating indentation extends radially through said first molded part so as to expose said supporting
20 member therefrom.

24. The tubular molded article of Claim 15, wherein said decorating indentation has a radial depth less than a radial thickness of said first molded part.

25. The tubular molded article of Claim 15, wherein
25 said first and second molded parts have outer surfaces, respectively, which lie in the same cylindrical plane.